

from the ground it is seventeen feet in girth. It is sixty feet in height, and the trunk is a line of one hundred and eighteen feet. It is in this last particular that its grandeur is in the full pride of its foliage, it strikes the spectator with sensations similar to those of the magnificent Banyan trees of the East. Its boughs bending to the earth, with almost equal distance from each other, give it the appearance of a gigantic tent; with its leaves admit the refreshing breezes that curl the myriads of leaves, which form all together a mass of vegetable beauty and grandeur, scarcely to be equalled by any other in the kingdom. If, however, in the full pride of summer, this tree presents so refreshing a coolness, and amplitude of shade, it affords a still more singular and striking one in an autumnal morning; when its thousand boughs, and every pendent twig, are covered with the rays which no longer scorch, and dazzle only to please. The following morning, under this aspect, and written beneath the branches thus clothed in icicles, melting away before an ascending sun, will not, it is presumed, be unacceptable to the reader as harmonious numbers.

WHERE now my spirit lapp'd in dreaming mood,
I verily might think, majestic tree!
That I (for Kate is near) in company
Of some most fair and beauteous Naiad stood
In her own temple, 'neath the fountain flood;
In her own temple, roof'd all gorgeously
With jem and chrysolite—or, I might be
Embower'd with Fairy-queen in magic wood,

The small leaves raining
About our couch—or,
Starr'd with the tw
Such as illumine the l
Or else—but ah! so w
That fancy in the un

PLATE XII.—THE FREDVILLE OAK,

This is one of the three Oaks belonging to John Plumptre, Esq., described in the preceding plate, wherein the dimensions of it are also given. It is distinguished by the name of the Fredville Oak, and Stately. "Is it not a pity," says Sir Edward Harley, speaking of some ancient goodly creatures should be devoted to Vulcan?" No such fate, however, at present, pleasure with which the spectator views their different characteristics, is heightened by the prospect of their remaining protected and cherished, equally in their decay, as in their prime.

PLATE XIII.—THE CHESNUT TREE CALLED THE

The Chesnut is indigenous to England, and will thrive in almost any soil. Its usefulness its timber equals, and in some respects exceeds, that of the Oak. Its feathery stems, render it conspicuous among all other trees for beauty; and its fruit, when properly prepared, may be made a valuable article of food, in this country, as it is in France and Italy, where it is used in a variety of culinary processes, that convert it into delicacies for the tables of the nobility and the bread for the humbler classes.

The Chesnut sometimes grows to a prodigious size. Evelyn speaks of a tree contained 'tween the bowels of it, a pretty wainscoted room, enlightened with windows, and seats," &c.; but the largest known in the world is upon Mount Etna, in Sicily, the name of *Castagno de Cento Cavalli*, is described by Brydone, who went to see it, to be an impassable forest which grew out of the lava, as having the appearance of five hundred years old. Upon a more accurate examination, strengthened by the assurances of scientific men, we believe that they had been formerly united in one solid stem, and on measurement found it two hundred and four feet round: Carrara's assertion that there was within it a large palace, can, therefore, scarcely be regarded as an exaggeration.